

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 SWF-02 AGR-20 AID-20

SP-03 NSC-07 RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08

OMB-01 CEA-02 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03

SAJ-01 DRC-01 /165 W

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R 201054Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9185

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E. O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAGR, EAID, DA

SUBJ: DANISH CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER FOOD AID CONVENTION (FAC)

REF: A. STATE 118307, B. LONDON 7296, C. EC BRUSSELS 4197

1. ACCORDING TO FONOFF OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE
FOR DANISH FAC CONTRIBUTIONS (NETTERSTROM),
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DENMARK HAS INFORMED EC COMMISSION THAT IT WISHES

TO RESERVE OPTION OF UTILIZING ARTICLE II (R) OF FAC CONVENTION IN MAKING NATIONAL PORTION OF ITS CONTRIBUTION TO FUTURE EC COMMITMENTS BUT HAS NOT RPT NOT YET DECIDED WHETHER IT WILL IN FACT USE THAT OPTION. ACCORDING TO NETTERSTROM, DISCUSSION OF 1974 CONTRIBUTIONS WILL NOT COME UP IN EC UNTIL END OF SEPTEMBER AND FINAL DECISION MAY TAKE CONSIDERABLY LONGER. DANES ARE THEREFORE IN NO HURRY TO REACH DECISION ON WHETHER TO TAKE UP OPTION.

2. NETTERSTROM POINTED OUT THAT BACKGROUND TO DANISH POSITION IS THEIR LONG-STANDING DISTASTE FOR FOOD AID AS ADMINISTERED UNDER FAC. THEY RECOGNIZE THAT THEY WOULD BE GETTING OFF CHEAPLY BY UTILIZING ARTICLE II (R) BUT WANT, AT MINIMUM, TO MAKE POINT THAT THEY CAN IF THEY WISH. HE SAID THAT, SHOULD DENMARK USE THAT OPTION, IT WOULD APPLY ONLY TO NATIONAL PORTION SINCE DENMARK WOULD NOT WISH TO PLACE ITSELF IN POSITION OF EXERCISING VETO ON WISHES OF OTHERS ON EC PORTION. ON QUESTION OF WHETHER DENMARK WOULD USE CASH EQUIVALENCE FUNDS FOR FOOD AID OR AGRICULTURAL MATERIALS, NETTERSTROM SAID ONLY THAT DANES HAVE CONSIDERABLE SYMPATHY FOR JAPANESE POSITION (I.E., PROVIDING AGRICULTURAL MATERIALS) BUT HAVE REACHED NO DECISION.

3. EMBASSY COMMENT. WHILE IT IS ALWAYS POSSIBLE DANES MAY UTILIZE ARTICLE II (R), NETTERSTROM GAVE US IMPRESSION THAT, FOR THE MOMENT AT LEAST, DANES (PARTICULARLY IN THE PERSON OF FONOFF UNDER SECRETARY JENS CHRISTENSEN WHO HAS VIOLENT DISLIKE OF WHOLE FAC SCHEME) ARE DERIVING SOME SATISFACTION IN EXPRESSING THEIR PIQUE IN THIS FASHION AT HAVING BEEN BOXED INTO A CONCURRENCE ON RENEWAL OF EC CONTRIBUTIONS TO FAC. NORMALLY SUCH ACTION WOULD GO AGAINST STRONG DANISH SENSE OF FAIR PLAY AND SO WE THINK LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT COMMUNITY PRESSURE MIGHT, ONCE MORE, BRING THEM AROUND--ALBEIT RELUCTANTLY--TO A FULL SHARE CONTRIBUTION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, FOOD ASSISTANCE, GRAINS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974COPENH01703
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740162-0198
From: COPENHAGEN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740629/aaaaayuy.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. STATE 118307, B. LONDON 7296, C., EC BRUSSELS 4197
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 APR 2002 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <18 JUN 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DANISH CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER FOOD AID CONVENTION (FAC)
TAGS: EAGR, EAID, DA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005